

Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following new sentence after the sentence beginning on page 1, line 1.

The present invention is related to commonly owned and co-pending non-provisional patent application (09/774,870) entitled "Processing of Unsolicited Bulk Electronic Communication".

DEC 9/26/06
3, line 13: *Please add the following new paragraph after the paragraph beginning on page*

Fig. 5F is a flow diagram of yet another embodiment of a message processing method;

DEC 9/26/06
13, line 1: *Please add the following new paragraph ^{before} ~~after~~ the paragraph beginning on page*

Referring next to Fig. 5F, an embodiment of a message processing method is shown. This embodiment is a hybrid of the methods in Figs. 5B and 5E where steps 520 and 524 from Fig. 5B are added to Fig. 5E to create Fig. 5F. After step 512 in Fig. 5F, the determination that the message is solicited can be refuted in step 520 before processing proceeds to step 516. After step 516, the determination that the message is unsolicited can be refuted in step 524 before processing continues back to step 512.

Art Unit: 2153

part information; checking for an open relay in the routing information ;--.

- DEG
9/20/06
- In claim 17, after the word -- mailer;-- at line ²⁰~~21~~, please insert -- automatically determining the electronic mail message is probably unsolicited using a local open relay list maintained at a local mail system and free from third part information; checking for an open relay in the routing information ;--.

Conclusion

1. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yasin Barqadle whose telephone number is 571-272-3947. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glenn Burgess can be reached on 571-272-3949. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the